WAY 1 2 MM STEEL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ningning Miao Art Unit: 1633 M. Wilson Serial No.: 08/900,220 Examiner: ONV-044.01 Filing Date: July 24, 1997 Docket No.: MAY 15 2000 Method of Treating Dopaminergic and For: TECH CENTER 1600/2900 GABA-nergic Disorders

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this 9th day of May, 2000.

Jonathan Furtado

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter the following preliminary amendment prior to examination of the abovereferenced application. Please amend the specification as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claims:

--63. A nucleic acid which encodes a Desert hedgehog protein of human origin.

64. The nucleic acid of claim 63, which contains a part or the whole of either the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No: 8 or its complementary nucleotide sequence.